



## Hurricane Irma Response

### EPA Region 4

#### SITUATION REPORT #30

0900 – EST, September 27, 2017 to 0900 – EST, September 29, 2017

## I. HIGHLIGHTS SINCE LAST SITUATION REPORT

Two Region 4 On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) are in Miami representing the EPA in the EPA/USCG/FDEP Unified Command. The EPA Unified Commander reports that operations may be hampered by the current tropical weather disturbance in South Florida.

Four EPA field teams composed of OSCs, Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) members, and Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractors deployed to Florida on September 25, and have established a forward command center in Marathon Key.

Current EPA operations consist of identification of staging areas for orphan containers, hazardous waste, and fuel and oil recovered from vessels. The Key West-Marathon Airport has been established as the initial staging area.

On September 27, EPA teams conducted land-based assessments in the inland zone in the Marathon and ISLA Morada areas of the Keys. They were assessing target points associated with debris fields. These targets and debris fields were identified by a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) contractor using aerial imagery.

On September 25, FDEP requested EPA's Facility Assessment Support Team (FAST) assistance in assessing the status of 1,112 non-community public water systems. Assessment activities assigned by FDEP began on September 26, and the 592 assigned assessments were completed on September 28.

Two Landfill Technical Specialists from the Resource Conservation and Restoration Division (RCRD) mobilized Wednesday to the Keys. The team is working with the FDEP Marathon Branch (MB) staff on implementing use of FDEP's Disaster Debris Management Site Checklist.

A new Mission Assignment (MA) for \$10,000,000 to continue the EPA ESF-10 Mission through November has been approved.

## II. KEY QUESTIONS

### a. What has Florida asked us to do?

Florida assigned the EPA ESF-10 Mission Assignments to conduct assessments of targeted facilities, orphan containers assessment and recovery, and hazardous substance and oil pollution response including potential vessel response and recovery. An additional ESF-10 Mission Assignment has been established to provide Landfill/Debris Management technical support. An ESF-3 Mission Assignment was issued to EPA by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to provide water infrastructure technical and field support.

### b. How are we leaning forward?

The EPA Region 4 performed field-assessments at all National Priority List (NPL) sites within the State and contacted all Facility Response Plan (FRP) facilities through a combination of call-down and field assessments. The Region also contacted all 274 Risk Management Plan (RMP) facilities in Florida. No ESF-10 issues were reported.

### III. EPA OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

#### a. Orphan Container, Pollution Response, and Vessels

Over the weekend of September 23, EPA completed the Orphan Container assessment Mission Assignment in Collier County. All containers previously collected in Collier County by the EPA Orphan Container Group were disposed by Collier County's contractor.

From September 27-29, EPA teams conducted land-based assessments in the inland zone in the Marathon and Islamorada areas of the Keys. The Key West-Marathon Airport has been established as the initial container staging area.

The Environmental Unit (EU) in the Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) is coordinating with NOAA to obtain remote assessment data for use in the EPA GeoPlatform. Previously, FDEP, EPA, USCG and NOAA identified data sources from multiple agencies and organizations that included assessment information on orphaned containers and vessels. The EPA has completed a composite of this information that corresponds to the current data format. This information will improve data collection and maintenance without duplicating previous efforts.

Unified Command approved the Hurricane Irma Vessel Mitigation and Removal Protocol for the State of Florida on September 24. The REOC has received clarification that the term "targets" includes four categories of material. Unified Command has identified **over 1,000** potential targets for assessment, consisting of containers, vessels, vehicles and debris piles. Tables 1 and 2 provide a summary of EPA's assessment status of containers and USCG's assessment status of vessels.

Table 1 EPA Container Assessment Targets Identified to Date			
USCG Sector	Targets Identified/Assessed	Targets Completed*	Targets Remaining
Key West	62	0	62
*Removed or determined no further action necessary			

Table 2 USCG Vessel Assessment Targets Identified to Date*			
USCG Sector	Targets Identified/Assessed**	Targets Completed***	Targets Remaining
Jacksonville	92	4	88
Key West	146	6	140
Miami	60	0	60
St. Petersburg	151	7	144
Grand Total	449	17	432
*As reported by USCG Sector Key West			
**Table list on confirmed targets. Unified Command has identified <b>over 1,000</b> potential targets for assessment			
***Removed or determined no further action necessary			

#### b. Water Infrastructure

ESF-3 was tasked to provide technical assistance to the USACE for water infrastructure assessment. Field and remote assessment activities have been completed. Tables 3 and 4 summarize community water system status and Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) in Florida as per the last state report.

i. **Water Team Deployment**

The USACE and the Water Protection Division has completed their field mission of assisting FDEP in assessing the status of drinking water and wastewater facilities. The FAST completed 592 assessments of the 1,112 non-community drinking water systems assigned to the team by FDEP.

ii. **Boil Water Notices (BWNs)<sup>1</sup>**

Boil water notice or advisories are published on the Florida Department of Health's website (<http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/drinking-water/boil-water-notices.html>).

Table 3 Status of Community Drinking Water Systems (CWS) and Total Population Served in Florida				
	Large CWS (Over 3,300)		Small CWS (under 3,300)	
	# Systems	Population Served	# Systems	Population Served
Operational:	395	19,210,964	1,192	684,223
Partially Operational:	1	77,500	14	15,084
Non Operational:	0	0	3	255
Unknown:	0	0	34	10,916
Totals:	396	19,288,464	1,243	710,478
Boil Water Notices	58 Active BWN			
<b>Comments:</b> Data are compiled from the State of Florida's <i>StormTracker</i> system. The inventory of public water systems in <i>StormTracker</i> consists of all 1,630 Community Water Systems (CWS) and 11 non-community public water systems regulated by the State. These facilities were identified by Florida as the most critical for operational status determinations following major disasters. For convenience, all 1,641 facilities are reported as “CWS” in this table.				
<i>Operational:</i> Facility producing drinking water for greater than 90% of customers under normal operating conditions				
<i>Partially Operational:</i> Facility producing drinking water under adverse conditions and/or supplying less than 90% of customers				
<i>Non Operational:</i> Facility not producing or supplying drinking water				
<i>Unknown:</i> Status of facility unknown at this time				

<sup>1</sup> While a BWN may be issued for an entire system, many are issued for only part of a distribution system (blocks, subdivisions, specific number of houses, etc.) making estimates of the population effected by a BWN inaccurate or unavailable. As such, reporting of populations affected is misleading therefore not reported at this time.

<b>Table 4</b> <b>Number and Status of</b> <b>POTWs within Florida</b>			
	NPDES Permitted Facilities		State Permits (Non-NPDES)
	POTW	Non-POTW (Industrial)	
<b>Operational:</b>	143	242	1,766
<b>Partially Operational:</b>	2	1	33
<b>Non Operational:</b>	0	0	88
<b>Unknown:</b>	0	0	121
<b>Totals:</b>	145	243	2,008
Comments: Data are compiled from the State of Florida's <i>StormTracker</i> system. The NPDES universe tracked in <i>StormTracker</i> represents a subset of the total inventory of NPDES permitted systems identified by the State of Florida as the most critical for operational status determinations following major disasters.  This report shows that 99% of the POTWs are Operational, no change since last report of 99%. This report shows that 99% of the Non-POTW NPDES Permitted Facilities tracked in StormTracker are Operational, no change since last report of 99%.			
<i>Operational:</i> Facility & associated collection system is properly conveying, and effectively providing wastewater treatment, in accordance with applicable permit conditions and regulations. (Operating on full or backup generator power.)  <i>Partially Operational:</i> Facility and/or associated collection system is properly conveying and providing wastewater treatment at a compromised capacity, i.e. one or more treatment train components are non-operational, one or more lift stations are non-operational, etc.  <i>Non Operational:</i> Facility and/or associated collection system is not providing wastewater treatment in accordance with applicable permit conditions and regulations  <i>Unknown:</i> Status of facility unknown at this time			

### c. Fuel Waivers and No Action Assurance Letters

On September 21, EPA received letters from the State of Florida requesting extensions to two existing fuel waivers and three no action assurance (NAA) letters issued in anticipation of Hurricane Irma. On September 21, the EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) issued three NAA letters extending Florida's existing NAAs for truck loading, vapor recovery, and roof landing to October 6. OECA issued an extension to the waiver for red-dyed diesel fuel to October 6. EPA Headquarters, with input from the State and Region 4, is working to evaluate and respond to the remaining fuel waiver extension request.

Table 5 summarizes Fuel Waivers and NAA letters for fuels for **mobile sources** (e.g., cars/trucks), and NAA letters for **stationary sources** of pollution (e.g., power plants).

<b>Table 5</b> <b>Chronology of Waivers and NAAs to Date</b>				
Requesting State	What they requested (Date of request)	Waiver or NAA	EPA Response	Does this supersede a prior waiver or NAA?
<b>MOBILE SOURCE FUELS – EPA ISSUED FUEL WAIVERS AND NAAs</b>				
GA	Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) and ethanol requirements for gasoline. Requested on August 28, 2017	Waiver	<a href="#">Waiver issued on August 29</a>	No
Covers all R4 States (though	Low volatility conventional gasoline and Reformulated Gasoline (RFG).	Waiver	<a href="#">Waiver issued on August 30</a>	No

**Table 5**  
**Chronology of Waivers and NAAs to Date**

Requesting State	What they requested (Date of request)	Waiver or NAA	EPA Response	Does this supersede a prior waiver or NAA?
not all formally submitted a request)	Requested on various dates (or not requested at all).			
Covers all R4 States (though not all formally submitted a request)	Low volatility conventional gasoline and Reformulated Gasoline (RFG). Requested on various dates (or not requested at all).	Waiver	<a href="#">Waiver issued on August 31</a>	Yes
FL	Red dyed 15 ppm non-road diesel locomotive and marine fuel. Requested on September 5, 2017	Waiver	<a href="#">Waiver issued on September 6</a>	No
Covers all R4 States (though not all formally submitted a request)	Low volatility “summertime” gasoline requirements and RFG. Requested on various dates (or not requested at all).	Waiver	<a href="#">Waiver issued on September 7</a>	Yes
FL	Use of Duke Power’s diesel reserves (non-ULSD) in vehicles and equipment for response to power outages (9/13/17)	NAA	<a href="#">NAA issued on September 13</a>	NA
<b>STATIONARY SOURCES – EPA ISSUED NAAs</b>				
FL	Operation of simple-cycle combustion turbines in Monroe County, FL, without adhering to NOX control requirements (9/08/17)	NAA	NAA for violations of NSPS Subpart GG NOX emission standard and permit requirements for simple-cycle combustion turbines in Monroe County, FL (9/08/17) See <a href="#">HERE</a>	No
FL	Fuel Loading Operations for fuel shortages (9/08/17)	NAA	Statewide NAA for vapor recovery requirements for fuel shortages (9/08/17) See <a href="#">HERE</a>	No
FL	Truck Loading Operations for fuel shortages (9/08/17)	NAA	Statewide NAA for Truck Loading Operations for fuel shortages (9/08/17) See <a href="#">HERE</a>	No
FL	Roof Landings for fuel shortages (9/08/17)	NAA	Statewide NAA for Roof Landings at fuel storage tanks for fuel shortages (9/08/17) See <a href="#">HERE</a>	No
FL	Relief from various permit conditions and permit requirements at TECO power plants (9/09/17)	NAA	Relief from various permit conditions and permit requirements at three TECO power plants (9/10/17) See <a href="#">HERE</a>	No
FL	Relief from various permit conditions and permit requirements at Florida power plants state-wide (9/10/17)	NAA	Statewide relief from various permit conditions and permit requirements at Florida power plants (9/10/17) See <a href="#">HERE</a>	Yes (Supersedes TECO)

#### **d. Landfill Specialty Team**

An MA providing funding for EPA Landfill Specialty Teams (LST) through November has been approved. Two Landfill Technical Specialists from RCRD mobilized to the Unified Command Post in Miami on Wednesday and will provide debris technical assistance to Monroe County and FDEP.

The Teams participated in a conference call on September 28, with Miami Unified Command regarding vessel recovery. LST duties and FDEP's desire to have the LST evaluate management of household hazardous waste (HHW) at the Disaster Debris Management Sites (DDMSs) were discussed on the call. LST activities will be limited to technical advice and evaluation. The Team will not be involved in the physical collection or disposal of HHW.

The LST will work with the FDEP Marathon Branch (MB) staff on implementing the use of FDEP's Disaster Debris Management Site Checklist. The LST and MB staff will cross-train for the next few days and plan to visit as many DDMSs as possible.

#### IV. FLORIDA STATUS UPDATE

All Emergency Support Functions are active. EPA Region 4 was released from staffing the ESF-10 Desk at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) on September 26. State-specific information can be found on the Florida Division of Emergency Management webpage: <http://www.floridadisaster.org/index.asp>.

Tables 6 and 7 provide an overview of hurricane impact and facility assessment status.

Table 6 Summary of Hurricane Impacts Throughout Florida	
<b>Category</b>	
<b>SEOC Status</b>	Level 2 (Fully staffed 12-hour operations)
<b>Evacuations</b>	Reported 592 total population in shelters
<b>Power outages</b>	Floridadisaster.org lists no current power outages associated with Hurricane Irma
<b>Boil Water Advisory</b>	A Boil Water Notice is still in effect across multiple water systems.

Table 7 Florida - Summary of Priority Facility Sites			
	<b>NPL</b> National Priority List	<b>RMP</b> Risk Management Plan	<b>FRP</b> Facility Response Plan
<b>Total</b>	93	274	122
<b>Assessments Completed</b>	93	274	122
<b>Assessments Pending</b>	0	0	0

#### V. FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

No significant updates were provided by the Region 4 Tribes during this reporting period.

#### VI. EPA STAFFING

The EPA Region 4 REOC remains at Level 3 activation. Staffing provided in Table 8 represents all EPA and contractor staff associated with the Hurricane Irma response. See the Incident Management Field Operations Organizational Chart for the overall command structure at the end of the SitRep (Figure 1). The REOC will go to remote operations over the coming weekend.

<b>Table 8</b> <b>Region 4 Staffing (09/29/17 – 0900)</b> <b>Deployment Location</b>				
	<b>EPA R4 Atlanta<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>FEMA Atlanta</b>	<b>Florida SEOC<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Florida Field Operations<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>EPA R3</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>EPA R4</b>	17	0	1	9
<b>EPA R5</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>EPA HQ</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>START</b>	2	0	0	5
<b>ERRS</b>	0	0	0	4

1. EPA staff and contractors working directly in the REOC or actively supporting Region 4 REOC operations from a remote location (e.g., normal workstation).
2. EPA R4 On-Scene Coordinator liaison staffing ESF-10 desk at the Florida Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee, Florida.
3. EPA staff and contractors staffing field assessment teams in various locations in Florida.

## VII. FINANCE

Table 9 provides a summary of Mission Assignments. Several Cost-to-Date values are lower than previously reported due to incorporation of actual costs in place of estimates.

<b>Table 9</b> <b>FEMA Mission Assignment Status</b>					
<b>Mission Assignment Number</b>	<b>Type of Mission Assignment</b>	<b>Period of Performance</b>	<b>State Cost Share</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Cost-to-Date</b>
4337DR-FL-EPA-05	Federal Operations Support	September 4 to October 15, 2017	0%	\$90,000	\$76,065
4337DR-FL-EPA-03	Direct Federal Assistance	September 10 to October 3, 2017	0%	\$525,000	\$458,556
4337DR-FL-EPA-04	Disaster	September 4 to October 3, 2017	0%	\$9,000,000	\$3,078,934
4337DR-FL-EPA-07	Landfill Specialty Team	September 25 to October 3, 2017	0%	\$675,000	\$0
New MAs, cited previously, have been approved but have not yet been assigned tracking numbers; therefore, they are listed in the table. New MAs begins on October 4.					

## **VIII. OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (OExA)**

### **a. Press Inquiries:**

Fort Myers News Press (Fla.) (Bill Smith) [Received September 7] – CLOSED - Would like to speak with someone about the reporting requirements after a sewage spill. The question is due to Hurricane Irma. Referred to FDEP.

### **b. Congressional Inquiries:**

On September 20, the EPA Headquarters (HQ) received a letter from Senators Rubio and Nelson urging EPA to continue to work with state and municipal governments to expedite “direct federal assistance and technical assistance” to reduce sewage and untreated wastewater exposure risks. The letter also asked EPA to consider using the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) to enhance capacity and resilience of drinking water, stormwater and wastewater systems. The letter was controlled to the Region 4 Water Protection Division for reply.

Staff from Congressman Brian Mast (FL-18) contacted EPA HQ to inquire whether EPA field personnel could meet with the Congressman this week to discuss Irma related water quality issues. HQ forwarded the request to the Regional Administrator’s office.



Figure 1



R4 Hurricane Irma ICS207  
Incident Management: Field Operations

